

BORIOMYIA BANKS, 1905 (INSECTA, NEUROPTERA) : PROPOSED
VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS. Z.N.(S.) 1531

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The purpose of this application is to seek the stabilisation of the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks, 1905, in the sense which its author originally intended. In order to do this, the Commission is asked to suppress under the plenary powers the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks, 1904.

2. The first mention of the generic name *Boriomyia* is in a list of the Neuroptera of Washington, D.C., Banks (1904, *Proc. ent. Soc. Wash.* 6 : 209). Two species are listed, *Boriomyia fidelis* Banks and *Boriomyia speciosa* Banks. Both are previously described species (in *Hemerobius*), but no description is given of *Boriomyia* nor is there any indication that it is intended as a new generic name. In the following year, the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks appears as a new genus, with diagnosis, in a revision of the Nearctic Hemerobiidae (Banks, 1905, *Trans. Amer. ent. Soc.* 32 : 36) and the type-species is designated as *Boriomyia disjuncta* (Banks, 1897). The two species listed in the 1904 publication are also included in the genus.

3. In 1930, Banks (*Psyche* 37 : 224) proposed the new subgeneric name *Allotomyia* (but without designation of a type-species) for the two species originally listed as *Boriomyia* in 1904, and in later papers Banks treats *Allotomyia* as a valid genus distinct from *Boriomyia* Banks (*sensu* 1905).

4. In 1937, Killington (*Mon. Brit. Neur.* 2 : 253, Ray Soc., London) pointed out that under the International Rules of Nomenclature, *Boriomyia* Banks, 1904, was a valid generic name, since it contained two previously described species. He therefore designated *Hemerobius fidelis* Banks, 1897 (one of the originally included species) as the type-species of *Boriomyia* Banks, 1904, placing *Allotomyia* Banks, 1930, as a synonym, both genera having the same two originally included species. For the British species then standing in *Boriomyia* Banks, 1905, he erected a new genus, *Kimminsia* (1937, *Mon. Brit. Neur.* 2 : 254), with type-species *Hemerobius betulinus* Ström, 1788. It is generally agreed that *Hemerobius betulinus* Ström and *Hemerobius disjunctus* Banks are congeneric.

5. It has since become evident that the taxon intended by Banks when erecting the generic name *Boriomyia* was that typified by *Hemerobius disjunctus* Banks and its congeners. This is made quite clear by a footnote to Carpenter's revision of the Nearctic Hemerobiidae (1940, *Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts Sci.* 74 : 215) which reads : " Mr. Banks has explained to me that although his revision [1905], was published after the Washington List [1904], it was sent for publication before the latter, which did not therefore include genotype designation." (The dates in square brackets are not in the original footnote.)

6. In *Boriomyia* Banks, we thus have a case in which the retrospective application of the Rules has led to the adoption of an interpretation of the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks contrary to the original intention of the author.

Killington's action is justified under the Rules, but his generic name *Kimminsia* has not been universally adopted. Dr. B. Tjeder, in particular, has adhered to the use of the name *Boriomyia* Banks (*sensu* 1905) and he has recently pointed out (1961, *S. Afr. Anim. Life* 8 : 366) that if a new name be needed for *Boriomyia* Banks, 1905, the generic name *Wesmaelius* Krüger, 1922, as a subjective synonym of *Boriomyia* Banks, 1905, should replace *Kimminsia* Killington, 1937.

7. Having regard to the fact that the name *Kimminsia* proposed by Killington is itself threatened with replacement by *Wesmaelius*, it seems desirable that stability in nomenclature in this case be attained by suppressing the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks, 1904, and by placing *Boriomyia* Banks, 1905, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology, with type-species (by original designation) *Hemerobius disjunctus* Banks, 1897 (*Trans. Amer. ent. Soc.* 24 : 25).

8. The generic name *Boriomyia* Banks has not been used as the basis of any family-group name.

9. The International Commission is therefore asked :

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks, 1904, for the purposes of both the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy ;
- (2) to place the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks, 1905 (gender : feminine), type-species, by original designation, *Hemerobius disjunctus* Banks, 1897, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology ;
- (3) to place the specific name *disjunctus* Banks, 1897, as published in the binomen *Hemerobius disjunctus* (type-species of *Boriomyia* Banks, 1905) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology ; and
- (4) to place the generic name *Boriomyia* Banks, 1904 (suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.